

# HOW·NI·KAN

PEOPLE OF THE FIRE



Vol. 17, No. 7

Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe

July, 1995



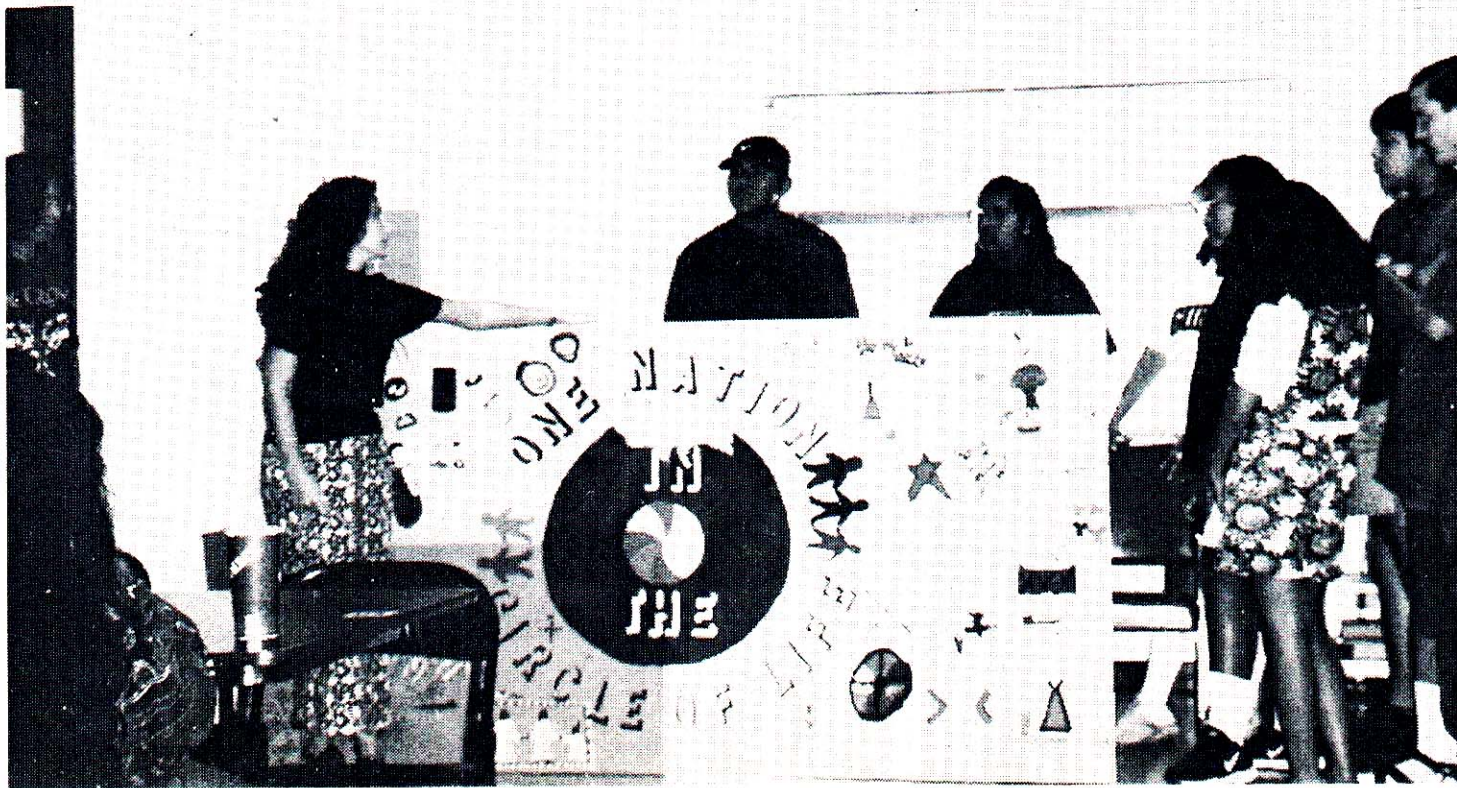
POTAWATOMI  
POW WOW  
1995

Right: Dancer In Straight Dance Dress Joins The Grand Entry.  
Below: Traditional Dancer Cools Off After Competition.





# TRIBAL TRACTS



## The Medium Is The Message

Students in the Potawatomi Tribe's JTPA Summer Youth Program competed this mural as one of their projects. Titled "One Nation In The Circle Of Life," the mural will be displayed at the Tribal Museum. Students participating were Melissa Batiste, Wes Meeks, Rickey tiger, Taj Thomas, Felicia Marshall, Carrie Mitchell, Amy Hawkins, Takoche Ahisse, Dassey Wallace, Chris Wallace, Manotchka Harjo, Priscilla Harjo, Becky Littlethunder, Cassandra Larney, Ariann Haupy, Summer Alderson, Melody Ybrra, Dustin Harjo, and George Ybrra. Counselors were Shirl Hubert, Yusenda Condon, April Harjo and Carol Levi.

## Walking on ...

### Elsie Peltier Blackhawk

Elsie Peltier Blackhawk died in Salem, Oregon, on June 8, 1995, after a brief illness. She was born on November 17, 1903, in Lexington, Indian Territory. She was a member of the Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe and was educated at Sacred Heart Mission, an Indian boarding school Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma.

She married James Walter Kenney at age 17 and was later divorced. Her second marriage to Edward A. Blackhawk in the mid-thirties ended with his death in 1975. The Blackhawks were longtime residents and ranchers near Pawhuska, Oklahoma. They retired to Dewey, Oklahoma, in 1972. Following a stroke in 1990, she moved to Oregon to be near family. Mrs. Blackhawk is survived by three granddaughters, Kay M. Reichlin of Salem, Oregon; Joyce A. Barton of Austin, Texas; and Lisa M. Mayfield of Portland, Oregon; as well as three great grandchildren and two nieces. Funeral services were in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and interment was in Pawhuska.

### James Irven Martin

James Irven Martin died Saturday, June 3, 1995 in St. Mary Hospital. He was born March 23, 1917, in Maple Hill, KS. He graduated from Rossville, KS, High School and attended Washburn University in

Topeka, KS. He was a pilot instructor in the U.S. Army Air corps during World War II. He married Mae DePui on May 15, 1941, in Topeka, KS, and was a member of Christ the King Catholic Cathedral Knights of Columbus, Christ the King Catholic School Foundation, Sierra Club, Red Raider Club and Hillcrest Country Club.

He was a former board member of the Texas Dairy Queen Operators Council and owned the Dairy Queen restaurants in Lubbock, Lamesa and Brownfield.

Survivors include his wife; a son, Michael T. of Lubbock; two daughters, Cynthia Holliday of Dallas and Patty Martin of Lubbock; two brothers, Ray of Topeka, KS, and Donald of Rossville, KS; two sisters, Bonnie Van de Velde of Rossville, KS and Nona Halton of Eufaula, OK; and seven grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Mark Anderson, Royce Ellison, Joe V. Boerner, Joe Blackwood, Harry Walker, Jack Nuding, Bruce Wilson, Dick Seabrook and LaRue Savage. Honorary pallbearers will be members of the Sierra Club.

The family suggest memorials to Christ the King Catholic School Foundation or to St. Marys Hospital Foundation.

### Ruth Schmidt

Ruth Schmidt died of cancer on April

14, 1993 at the Woodside, California home of her daughter, Mary Ruth Ewing. She was 74. Born in Lexington, Oklahoma, as the fifth child of Christine and David Stackhouse, Ruth spent her early years in the Greenfield-King City area of California. She married Charles Schmidt of King City in 1938. They moved to Hollister in 1945. Charles was a mechanic for Jones Chevrolet (later known as Tipton Motors) and Ruth worked in the cannery and drove a school bus.

In later years, Charles's failing health caused the couple to return to King City where Ruth found employment as an elementary school teacher's aide. Charles died in 1983. Following retirement from the King City School district, Ruth moved to Olympia, Washington to live with her younger daughter, Sandra Sue Schmidt. There she greatly enjoyed taking care of her great granddaughters Kandi and Sarah Beth Gleaves. Other survivors include grandchildren Kristi Gleaves and Derek Losey of Olympia, sisters Marie Koenig of Salinas, California, and Mercedes McKillup of Monroe, Washington and sister-in-law Lee Stackhouse of San Antonio, Texas. Ruth's brothers Eugene and Vincent Stackhouse and her sister Lucille Whan preceded her in death.

Private burial of Ruth's ashes took place in Olympia.

## Tribal member to pitch for Cleveland Indians

Tribal member Darren Ross Loudermilk, nicknamed "milkman" or "Milk," was recently drafted as a pitcher to play professional baseball by the Cleveland Indians organization.

Darren, born Oct. 11, 1974, is the great-great grandson of John B. Pambogo (deceased), great-grandson of Josephine Alice Pambogo Smith (deceased) and grandson of LaVena May. All these family members were or are on the tribal rolls.

Darren attended St. James Catholic School, K-8, graduated from Mt. St. Mary High School in 1992, attended Rose State College for 2 years on a full athletic scholarship, attended Oklahoma City University his junior year (1994-95) on a half-athletic, half-academic scholarship. He was selected for the Sooner Athletic Conference Team, was a Sooner Athletic Conference Player of the Week, and was a NAIA All-American Honorable Mention (all his junior year at OCU).

After signing with the Indians, Darren spent a week at mini-camp in Winter Haven, Florida and then went to play advanced rookie ball in Burlington, North Carolina for the Burlington Indians, where he is now.

Darren's older brother Neil, who also graduated from Mount St. Mary High School (1989), attended El Reno Junior College (Redlands), University of Oklahoma and South Oklahoma City Community College. He is married to a school teacher, has a new son, Garrett Ross Loudermilk (born April 1, 1995), and played on the 1988 Mount St. Mary state championship baseball team.

"Neil and I fight over who is Darren's most avid fan," said their mother, Donna Loudermilk ... As a proud single parent, I wanted to give you the opportunity to let other single parents and Potawatomi Indians know of the good things that happen to other tribal members."

## Thought For Today

National Smile Week is August 1-7. The theme for that week is "Share a smile and it will come back to you, bringing happiness to you and the giver." After reflecting on this quote, I began to see the truth in it. When someone smiles at you, it becomes much easier to smile back. A smile can generate happiness within the giver. Let me encourage you to join the millions of other individuals who will participate in National Smile Week. Smiling can be contagious, so watch out! One of my favorite quotes on the subject of smiling says, "Keep smiling, It makes folks wonder what you're up too!"

And remember—to have a friend is to be one!

"Thought for Today" is provided by Steve Kime, tribal member, author and professional speaker from Bartlesville, Oklahoma.



Marilyn Morton began work as manager of the tribal convenience stores July 5, bringing with her many years of experience in retailing and advertising. Morton most recently lived in Tulsa and had worked for some time with the WalMart organization, living in large cities for the most part. "We made a family decision to work somewhere smaller, closer to the tribe and where we could be involved in the community," she said. A single mother and tribal member, she has two sons, Tony, 14, and Aaron, 8. They will live in Tecumseh. Morton has big plans for the stores, especially for the grand opening of the new Tecumseh smoke shop in early August. Already, the older store is pumping gas free and offering special purchases. "The money we make goes back into the tribe," she said. "That's my children's future."

Promising to lead Oklahoma Indian Legal Services (OILS) in the most difficult time in its history, Bob A. Smith of Blanchard recently accepted the unanimous nomination and election as president of the sixteen member Board of Directors of OILS.

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services is a non-profit organization which provides free legal services to low-income Native Americans throughout the state. OILS represents Indian people in civil legal proceedings connected with their Indian status. Led by Executive Director Michael C. Snyder, OILS has four staff attorneys and four support personnel. OILS also provides community education about legal issues to Native American groups.

Smith is a Chickasaw tribal member and is an attorney in private practice in Oklahoma City. He is a member of the Oklahoma Bar Association, the Oklahoma County Bar Association, the Native American Bar Association, and the Oklahoma Indian Bar Association.

Other officers elected at the recent board meeting include vice president Judith Royster, Indian Law professor at Tulsa University College of Law; secretary Marjorie Ketakea, a Kickapoo tribal member from McLoud; and treasurer Gordon Allen, a Choctaw tribal member and private attorney in Holdenville.

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		People of the Fire T-Shirt - XXL		12.00	
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# REGIONAL REPORTS

## REGIONAL OFFICE DIRECTORY

### COLORADO

Lisa Baldwin  
316 Dayton  
Aurora, CO 80010  
Local (303)363-9771  
FAX (303)863-0152  
Toll Free (800)531-1140

### SOUTH TEXAS

Lu Ellis  
26231 Huffsmith-Conroe Rd.  
Magnolia, TX 77355  
Local (713)356-7957  
Toll Free (800)272-7957

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Gary Bibb  
2824 Park Ave., Suite A  
Merced, CA 95348  
Local (209)722-8585  
FAX (209)723-4914  
Toll Free (800)874-8585

### OREGON

Roscoe "Rocky" Baptiste  
Box 346, 525 Ivy Ave.  
Gervais, OR 97026  
Local (503) 792-3744  
FAX (503) 792-3744  
Toll Free (800) 522-3744

### WASHINGTON

Susan Campbell  
3523 Anthony Place South  
Seattle, WA 98144  
Local (206)723-8055  
FAX (206)723-8055  
Toll Free (800)722-8055

### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Jeremy Bertrand Finch  
203 Bellefontaine Street  
Pasadena, CA 91105  
Local (818)796-2008  
FAX (800)432-2008  
Toll Free (800)432-2008

### NORTHERN TEXAS

Marjorie Hobdy  
3132 Kathy Lane  
Irving, TX 75060  
Local (214) 790-3075  
Toll Free (800) 742-3075

### SOUTHWEST

Philonise Williams  
20415 N. 29th St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85024  
Local (602) 569-3073  
FAX (602) 569-6935  
Toll Free (800) 452-8966

### MIDWEST

Maryann Welch-Frank  
468 J. R. Avenue  
Belton, MO 64012  
Local (816) 322-6639  
FAX (816) 322-6639  
Toll Free (800) 325-6639

## South Texas



Lu Ellis, Left, Escorts Mother Into Pow Wow Arena

### Bourzho from Houston,

The 22nd annual PowWow was everything we expected and more. John and I were so happy to see so many from Texas there and glad you were present at Council as well as out dancing with the drum.

I want you to know that I continue to be amazed that so few of the people take the time to vote! Voting is a privilege, and it is also a responsibility we have to ourselves and to the Tribe. How can you voice a criticism if you are not part of the solution? How can you be a part of the solution if you do not exercise your privilege to vote?

It is good that those vital issues, the opening of scholarships to all eligible tribal members, and the transfer of funds belonging to the Tribe, which are in trust with the BIA, to our own Trust Department in the First Oklahoma Bank, have passed in council vote. We will see a great deal of good come of that.

Weren't the dancers beautiful? And the drums excellent? This grandmother enjoyed every minute of dancing with you. I had the joy of dancing with my oldest daughter, my mother and my father.

The weather was extraordinary for the end of June, clear and cool and without rain. Those of you who could not come missed a very special gathering on a very special weekend.

In my eyes, only one thing was a miss. We as a people failed to give to Earth Mother the honor she deserves; I saw so many empty cups, paper napkins, plates and straws strewn about that I was ashamed. We would do well to leave any place we gather together a little better than we find it, not worse by our presence there.

A great megwetch to all of our tribal leaders, to Esther Lowden, to Carla and Jo Jo, and all the others who worked so hard to make this PowWow the very best. We love you for it.

We hope you have a great summer. Call us and let us know if we can help in any way. I will try to get a group together for a fall picnic, first so we can have a Giving Thanks for the new season, if you are interested. Spring Creek Park is very pretty in the fall.

Be good to each other, and keep well.

Lu Ellis

## North Texas

We had a very good representation from North Texas at the Pow Wow in Shawnee, some for their first Pow Wow. Some of you I did not get a chance to speak with, but I did see you. Hope you left with the same good feelings we had.

The Pow Wow was great as usual. My family (eight of us) enjoyed the tour to Sacred Heart. It was special to stand on the same ground where our grandmother had been as a student and later as a cook. During the tour, I heard others speaking of their relatives who had been there. The Business Committee meeting is of interest to all and gives an insight into the working of the tribe. Questions were asked of the committee and informative answers were given. We consumed our share of Indian tacos and "strawberry thing," also known as Strawberry Neuberg. And, of course, the regalia of those in the competition was beautiful. The Potawatomi Air Force, as described by the announcer, was our son, Captain Kent Blair Lewis, USMC.

In an earlier article, I mentioned Cassia Lynn Waite, a young Potawatomi in the North Texas Region, whose mother is helping her to maintain her ties with the tribe. Casey's father, Ed Waite, lives in Utah and her grandparents, Ed and Joyce Waite, live in Ridgecrest, California. Casey had a very busy May being inducted into the National Junior Honor Society, being awarded a certificate for the 7th Principal's Honor Roll and topped it off being awarded a certificate for the 7th Top Ten as #1! Lauri Callaghan says she is very proud of her daughter and sees Casey as "an excellent example for other young people."

It is so rewarding to be able to share this success story with you. If you have something you would like included in our paper let me know. Remember to send in your enrollment form for the Burial Insurance.

Marjorie Hobdy

## Northern California

### Bourzho from Merced,

Well, I've just arrived back from the Pow Wow and Council Meeting in Shawnee via a 7050 mile trip by car that took us through much of the USA with many "Indian Country" areas visited.

The Pow Wow was viewed from a new perspective than in previous years while working as an "arena director." I learned many new things with tremendous respect for those who work the Pow Wow and how much planning and effort that was put into the total event by Esther Lowden.

I was honored to represent the Tribe at a meeting in Wisconsin with the other Potawatomi Bands including those from Canada on issues of common interest to all the Bands. Surely, it is a new time that we are in when all the bands can meet together on these issues.

Seeing all the other Regional Representatives and the families, as well as our Tribal staff and administrators, was like a family reunion, for they have become family over the past several years. I find it amazing how many of our People have common traits and shared interests. "Stubborn" appears to be a trait that we all have in common. I've often been heard to say that Indians deal with adversity better than most. I think this stubbornness helps us deal with those adversities.

Upcoming Pow Wows include one in Three Rivers, Ca. on Sept. 1, 2 and 3. None have been noted in August, so if you know of any in the Northern California area, give me a call.

The General Council meeting in Shawnee updated all of the information and accounting of our enterprises as of 9-30-94. I have copies of the audit through that date and if any of you have questions, give me a call.

In keeping this within the allotted length, I would say it was a good Pow Wow with much learned and our progress noted in our business enterprises as well as progress in the gaining of our cultural history and traditional practices.

Thanks to the many who made our visit what it was and blessings to all our People wherever you might be. Know that we are in a new time.

Megwetch,

Gary Bibb



# REGIONAL REPORTS

## Southwest

### Greeting from Phoenix,

The weather was wonderful, the music and dancing was great! Our Chairman was RESPLENDENT in his new regalia, and everyone was beautiful in satin and ribbons and feathers and silks. My, what a party!

It was so nice to see old friends and catch up on what everyone has been doing over the past year. Then we meet and welcome new friends; it seems every year I add to my circle of friends.

Esther was as busy as a bee trying to keep everything running, and was doing a masterful job of it. You were lucky if you were able to say hello to her. Of course we saw the Business Committee at the council meeting, but they were busy also with preparations.

I finally was able to put a face to the name of Lisa Baldwin. We didn't have much of a chance to talk, but we had visited on the telephone and I hope to talk to her some more.

It was fun Dancing Susan! Susan Campbell, our Rep from Washington State, is out of the wheelchair but is still on crutches. It was a little difficult to



Philonise Williams, Center, and Lisa Baldwin, Right, Chat With Hazel Rhodd two-step on uneven ground with crutches, so her husband Eric and I and some of the others danced her crutch, bedecked with feathers and beads and prayer bundle, in the intertribal and it was my honor to carry her in for "Grand

Entry" and hold her crutch high when her name was called.

Lots of nice things happened and some not so nice. Among other things, the day I arrived at the motel, they gave my room away —Bummer! However my daughters had arrived the day before and had been lucky enough to snag a double, so they took pity on me and took me in.

My dear friend Karen Hopper and her husband George came this year. They enjoyed every minute of it. They had never been to a Pow Wow before. Karen was like a kid in the candy store; she wasn't sure which picture she wanted to shoot first. I hope to see the pictures and the videos of all three nights. Karen even danced the intertribal! It was great fun, Karen; let's do it again next year.

More next month. In the meantime, get those Burial Insurance Forms in. If any of you need forms for health or education, give me a call. I'm here to help. Have happy vacations and remember, believe in yourself and you can believe in others.

Megwetch,

*Philonise Williams*

## Midwest

### Bourzho from Kansas City;

The Shawnee Pow Wow, as always, was a wonderful experience. The Great Spirit looked down upon us favorably and blessed us with an absolutely beautiful weekend.

I hope many of you got to attend this year.

Each year I try to take a few friends along with me to the Pow Wow. So a few of them did get the chance to go this year, and they were very impressed with the tribal complex, the museum, bingo hall, the store, gift shop, bowling alley and everything else the tribe has to offer.

We really do have a lot to be proud of, including our tribal government. They all work very hard to make these things possible.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all of them for their efforts and putting on such a wonderful and successful powwow. Without them, this wouldn't be possible.

Just a reminder — please send in those burial insurance forms. The deadline is September 1, 1995.

Megwetch,

*Maryann Welch-Frank*

## Oregon

### Bourzho from Oregon/Idaho,

I have just returned from a wonderful trip to our Council Meeting and Pow Wow in Shawnee, OK. So many of our people, from all over the United States, gathered together to vote, eat, visit and dance together. I can't thank the committee members and the staff at the complex enough for the gracious welcome extended to us. I can tell you that I hope all of the guests that I invite into my home feel as "at home" and welcome as we were made to feel. It was great three days!

I'm sorry more of you from our region could not make it, but I do know how hard it is to travel so far. I took many video pictures of the complex buildings and the dancing and will have them available at the Potawatomi picnic coming up in Boise, Idaho (August 19). I hope many of you will try to attend. Did everyone receive the flyer sent out? If not please give me a call at the office and I will give you the directions and details for the picnic (1-800-522-3744). There are many activities planned for the day. Please try to stop by and visit with your cousins and kin.

Some other activities and pow wows around that you may wish to take your children to ...

**July 20**

5th Annual Tribal Elders Celilo Picnic...Celilo, OR. (Contact: Cynthia Espirito at 509-773-3786)

**July 21-23**

5th Annual Wallowa Band Nez Perce PowWow Wallowa, OR. (Contact: (503) 886-2422 or 886-8145)

**July 28-30**

Traditional PowWow...South Umpqua Falls, OR (Contact: Clem Rice at (503) 863-6932)

**July 29-31**

Chief Joseph Days.....Joseph, OR (Contact: Nez Perce Tribal Office (208) 843-2253)

**August 4-7**

American Indian Traditional Preservation-Arts Show & PowWow Rogue River C.C., Grants Pass, OR

**August 11-13**

Nesika Illahee PowWow...Siletz, OR (Contact: Siletz Tribal Office 800-922-1399 Karen Bell)

**August 18-20**

Chief Looking Glass PowWow...Kamiah, ID (Contact: 208-935-2502)

**August 19-20**

Grand Ronde PowWow...Grand Ronde, OR (Contact: Dakota Whitecloud (503) 879-2035)

**August 26**

Celebrating Traditions...Eugene, OR

**Sept. 13-23**

Agness PowWow Days...Agness, OR

**Sept. 30- Oct. 1**

Grants Pass PowWow...Grants Pass, OR

**Oct. 7**

U.I. Dance Club PowWow...Rickerall, OR

I'll see a lot of you in Boise and talk to others of you by telephone. If anyone else is interested in hosting summer gathering and potluck picnic, give me a call at the office 1-800-522-3744.

Megwetch,

*Rocky Baptiste*

**THOUGHT FROM THE NORTHWEST**

*The mighty Oak was once a little nut, that stood its ground...*



# REGIONAL REPORTS

## Washington State

### Bourzho from Washington State!

With the sights and sounds of Pow Wow in Shawnee still in my ears and my heart, I sit down to write this month's column.

If you have never had the opportunity to travel to Shawnee to participate in the annual pow wow, it's time to start making plans! The sight of our leaders and Potawatomi tribal members, whether in regalia or jeans, as they proudly enter the dance circle and let their feet pick up the beat of the drum truly warms your heart. The vision of our Chairman Rocky Barrett in his new regalia carrying the Eagle staff is one I will long carry with me. He was absolutely regal! The business committee and regional representatives formed a contingent of worthy leaders we should all be proud to have working for us and with us. Due to my crutches I was only able to make one Grand Entry, but in spirit made it in to every one.

If fact, it was at pow wow that I came to realize how really blessed I am. It started on Friday evening when my husband took my crutch into the circle so he could "dance" with me. From that point on, I never knew for sure where that crutch could be. I saw Philonise Williams take it into Grand Entry on Sunday with her. And at one point J.P. Motley came over to let me know we'd been out dancing together. After watching that crutch out in the circle and being greeted by friends, I decided that I really have nothing to complain about — I am so surrounded by love and prayers, how dare I complain that healing is slow in coming?! So on my down days I will remember this pow wow time and the encouragement from all of you and try to be patient, at least one more day! Megwetch!

Prior to traveling to Shawnee, I attended the Minnetrista Council summer meeting in Muncie, IN (see separate article). This was followed by a workshop on making traditional Ojibwa Black Ash baskets. Anna Crampton is considered to be a Master in the craft for her home state of Michigan. She learned basket weaving from her grandmother who learned from her mother before her. I was able to complete one basket, complete with ribbon work and a few strands of sweetgrass from Walpole Island fastened into the rim. I learned many special things during my few days there, not all of them in the classroom. And I met many wonderful people. It's a good place to be.

Last fall I mentioned a gathering of the Potawatomi Nation to be held in Ontario in September. The meeting was such a success that the planning committee, or so I've heard, has decided to hold the meeting annually and move it from Band to Band. This year's gathering will be held in Mayetta, KS among the Prairie Band September 7th, 8th and 9th.

It will include a pow wow, camping, feasts, youth activities and family issues workshops. There will be special ceremonies conducted in which you will be invited to participate. For more information contact Juanita Jessepe at (913) 966-2255. This is an excellent time to learn some of the traditional teachings that made us — and make us — Potawatomi.

Don't forget the picnic Nicole and Shayshoshewa have planned for you August 19 in Boise. By now you should have received a flyer telling you all about it and giving directions to Nicole's back yard. For more information call Nicole or Shayshoshewa (see numbers on flyer) or Rocky Baptiste (see number in HowNiKan). If you failed to get a flyer, call Rocky NOW! He will be happy to mail one off to you.

I still have some copies of the pow wow flyer in my office. If you'd like to go to a pow wow in Washington, Idaho or British Columbia, call and request a copy. My list only goes through Labor Day; from then pow wows start becoming fewer. I also have a list of flyers available through my office. If you haven't attended Regional or a picnic, call and ask for a copy of the list. I have several crafts sheets which are copyrighted and I only have permission to use them through the end of 1995. There are directions for medicine wheels, women's shawls — about eight different projects you might enjoy working on.

Applications for the burial insurance program are only being received until September 1 so if you haven't yet mailed in your form, THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE! There is no cost to you so I hope you will get a form mailed off before the deadline.

I will close with my thanks to all who made Pow Wow such a special time this year. Esther did an outstanding job pulling it all together and many other people went far out of their way to make us welcome and to help us. The Sacred Heart tour was a special time as well — thank you Hazel! With fondest memories ...

Megwetch!

Susan Campbell

## Prophetstown Center main topic at Minnetrista Council meeting

By SUSAN CAMPBELL

MINNETRISTA REPRESENTATIVE  
CITIZEN BAND POTAWATOMI TRIBE

The summer meeting of Minnetrista Council was called to order Sunday morning, June 18, 1995, in Muncie, Indiana at the Minnetrista Center for Great Lakes Native American Studies. Chief Richard Snake of the Moraviantown Delaware tribe in Ontario, Canada, offered our morning prayer, following which we were officially welcomed by Miami Chieftess Lora Siders. Representatives from ten membership tribes were introduced, followed by introductions of the guests.

Minutes were read and approved with one minor correction.

The first order of business was a report on the progress of the Prophetstown National Park Service Grant. This grant, sponsored by the Pokagon Potawatomi Tribe, will enable a group of tribal representatives to meet at the Prophetstown site near Lafayette, Indiana, for a period of two weeks during which they will be instructed in non-invasive archaeological techniques to be used in the exploration of the site of the new Intertribal Cultural Center to be built by Minnetrista in conjunction with the Indiana Parks Department. The grant was approved as written and letters from the business committees of tribes involved are requested as soon as possible; the work will be carried out during the last two weeks of October, 1995. Trainees will live near the site for the entire two weeks of training, with weekend seminars to advance their "hands-on" learning.

The preliminary plan for developing the Cultural Center and surrounding attractions was presented to Council members and reviewed. Costs were explained and possible grant sources discussed. State support, totalling nearly \$5 million, has already come from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources with additional gifts from the IDNR Foundation. Administration of the facility will be carried on by MCGLNAS, local citizens of Lafayette and the Prophetstown State Park Foundation.

Plans are underway for the Woodland Nations Conference to be held in Muncie Sept. 28, 29 and 30. Professor David Edmunds is scheduled to be the keynote speaker for the event. Also scheduled is a genealogical workshop on exploring Anishinabe roots.

The dates set for the 1996 Woodland Workshops and Pow Wow were announced. They will be held June 16-23, 1996. These dates have been chosen so as not to interfere with the annual pow wow of the Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe. It is hoped that by changing the dates more members of the Citizen Band can attend the workshops and pow wow while members of other tribes can join the

Citizen Band in Shawnee.

Mr. James Derringer of the Tippecanoe Historical Society in Lafayette is seeking input regarding a monument to the Native Americans to be placed at the Tippecanoe Battleground site. A circle of cedars surrounding a large boulder listing the tribes involved in the battle is proposed. Comments would be appreciated.

Discussion then moved to the area of sacred sites with a request from the Lac du Flambeau Chippewa for prayer support in the preservation of Strawberry Island, a burial site and gathering place for over 2000 years. Chieftess Lora Siders reported on a phone call from an Ohio man regarding artifacts recovered from the site of the Battle of Fallen Timbers; he is seeking Shawnee tribal leaders to discuss a possible return of certain articles.

Grand Rapids, MI is the host of a new Native American museum, the Van Amsdale. Their Potawatomi/Woodlands exhibit is greatly recommended.

Keller George, the New York Oneida representative to Minnetrista Council, recommended a Canadian Blackfoot architect for possible involvement in the Prophetstown Center. His credentials include work on the Smithsonian. This will be checked into.

Council concluded with a special presentation of a flute made by Miami tribal member Eugene Brown. He crafted the flute to represent the signing of the Greenville Treaty of 1795 and what it meant to the indigenous peoples of North America. It was created especially for Minnetrista Center and will go on display there.

## OPC reunion set

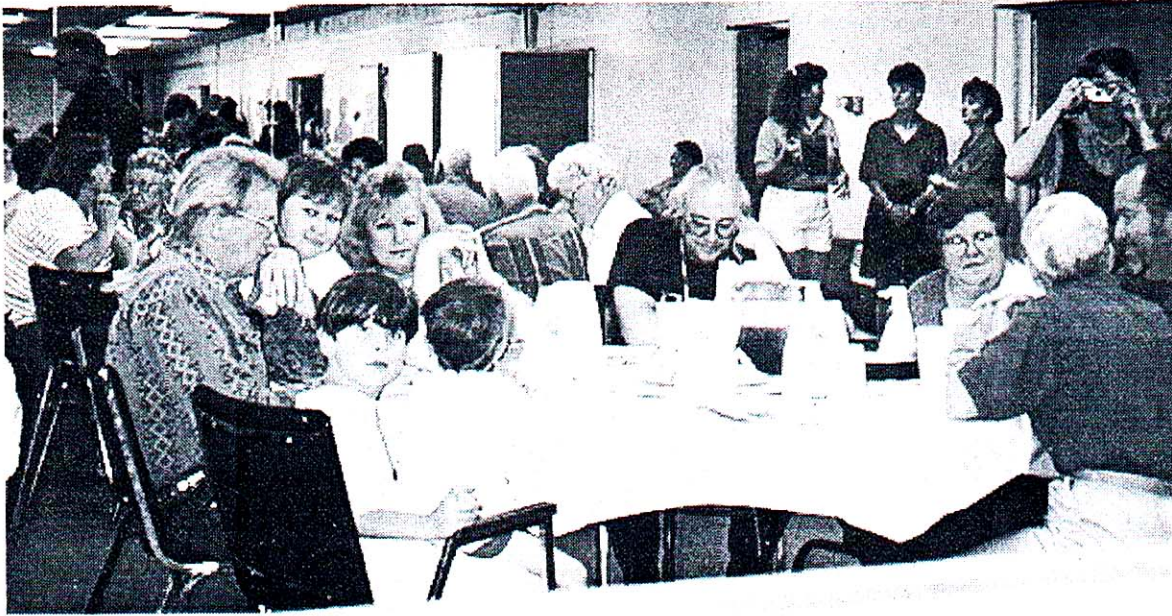
A reunion of alumni and staff of the former Oklahoma Presbyterian College has been set for October 20-21 in Durant, Oklahoma.

Oklahoma Presbyterian College, a mission school begun in 1894 to provide education for Indian boys and girls, was a prominent institution and landmark in Durant for many years before closing in 1966.

Originally called Calvin Missionary Institute, the school underwent several changes through the years. At one time there were only elementary and high school classes, primarily for Indian students; later the school centered on educating women to be teachers. In the early 1950s men were admitted. And in its last two decades before closing, the school's student body was multiracial.

Information has been sent to everyone on the current address list, but the planners hope to locate all living former students and staff to invite them to attend. If you have not received the mailing, contact Martha Wade Martinez (Class of 1958) at 6690 Miller Street, Arvada, CO, 80004 telephone 303-422-7175, for registration information.





Tribal Members And Guests Await The Start Of The General Council Meeting

## Major plans, minor improvements discussed at '95 General Council

BY GLORIA TROTTER

Topics ranging from the Potawatomi Tribe's next enterprise to widening the campground entrance peppered discussion at the 1995 General Council meeting June 24 in the Long Room at tribal headquarters in Shawnee.

A capacity crowd enjoyed sandwiches and cookies while hearing reports on the State of the Tribe from elected officials, staff and professional advisors. Tribal Chairman John A. Barrett Jr. was greeted with applause when he told the crowd that "after two and half years of negotiation, the state still won't give us a license to sell beer, so we're applying to the ATF (federal Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms division) for a brewery license.

"We'll just make and bottle our own," he said. "Maybe we'll call it Fire Lake Firewater." Amid the laughter that brought, Barrett explained that the proposed project would be much like the microbreweries that are now popular as restaurants and clubs. "Ours won't be showy," he said. It would have a bottling line, because there could be "a significant market" in selling to other tribes. He pointed out that under state law, only 3.2 beer can be sold cold.

Barrett also reported that revenues are "as predicted" on the newest enterprise, Fire Lake Lanes, and noted that the tribe's investment in the recreation industry is significant. "The (state) Commerce Department and others recognize the advantage of working with tribes," he added. "It's just the Tax Commission that hasn't gotten the message."

Tribal members also heard



Willie Mocabee was honored at Council for helping with the free pow wow meal every year.

from Jim Denton of the tribe's accounting firm, who praised the accounting staff for winning yet another award and reviewed the financial highlights of the year. Equity increased from \$15,686,569 to \$16,908,820, he said, and assets increased from \$43,860,307 to \$47,327,495.

Tribal attorney Michael Minnis reported that the tribe's lawsuit against the Bureau of Indian Affairs in the matter of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe putting land into trust is now in administrative court where briefs have been prepared and "we're waiting for a decision." He also reported that the tribe was informed it would be refunded \$40,000 after the attorneys filed a claim for funds put into the state underground storage facility fund. "We found that the tribes have been barred from participation although they've been collecting the money for five or six years," he said.

Larry Briggs, president of First Oklahoma Bank, said that plans for a new tribal credit card are

underway and encouraged members to use the bank's new toll-free number to access bank services. The number is 1-800-CBPTFOB. "We've increased lending tremendously in the Shawnee area," Briggs reported. "The bank gains in value every single day — your investment has increased." Briggs closed by telling the group that "this is your bank ... I'd like to be your banker."

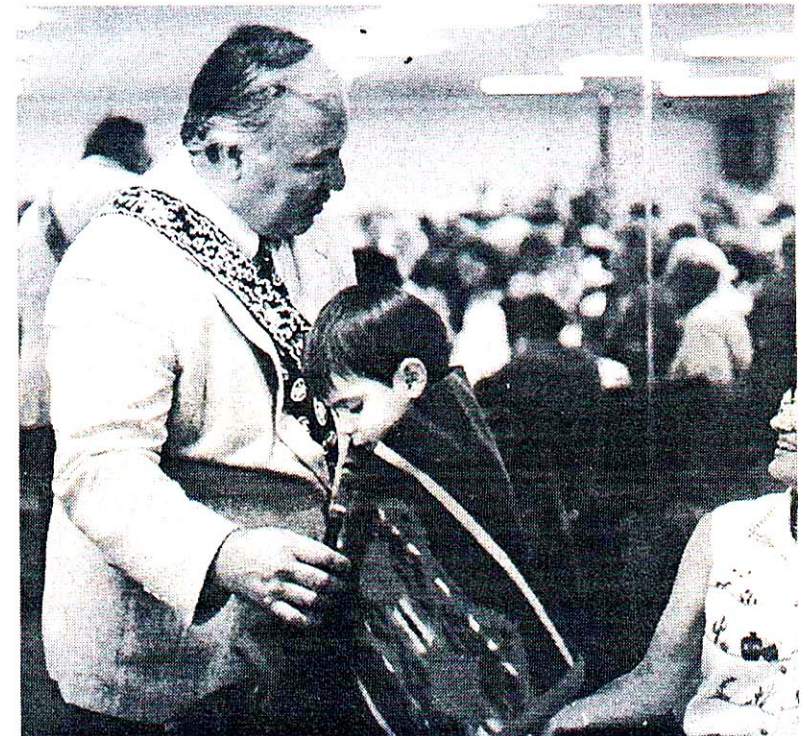
Tribal Administrator J.D. Colbert, addressing the General Council for the first time since he came to work for the tribe last August, said he had worked with about 200 tribes over the years and "I can tell you quite honestly, we compare very well with other tribes by whatever measure you use." Noting that the tribe is unusual in that it doesn't pay Business Committee members, he called for a round of applause for them and got a standing ovation. Colbert noted that the federal "cutbacks that are coming won't impact us as much as other tribes because of our enterprises.

"We are warriors again," he told the Council, "fighting the state and the national capital ... we're fighting with our attorneys, our accountants."

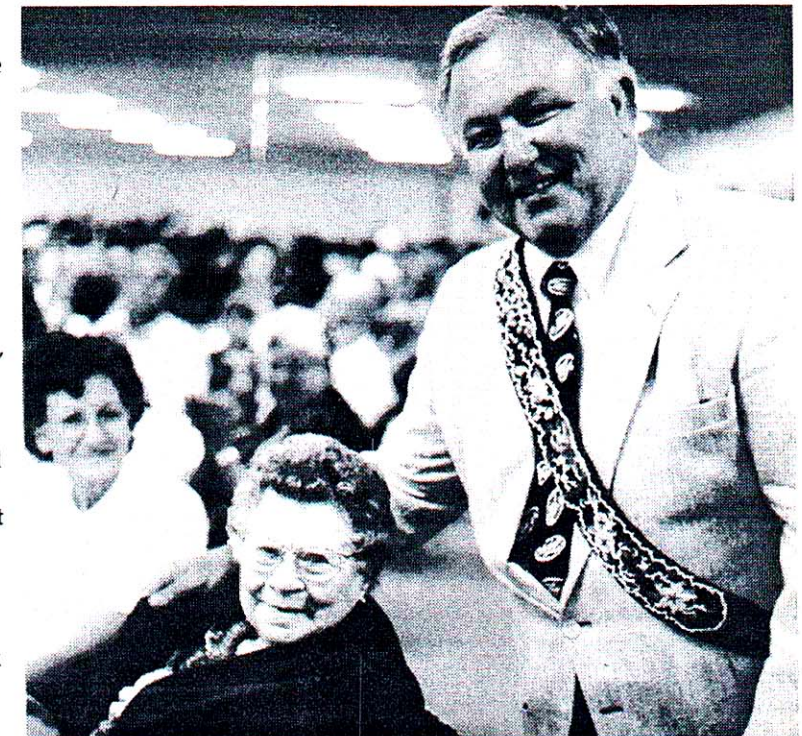
During the question and answer session, several suggestions were made by visiting tribal members. One suggested that tribal members receive a discount at tribal enterprises, noting that tribal members "don't have any more advantage than anyone else." Barrett said that was a good idea. He also agreed to look into widening the entrance to the campground to make it easier to get larger RVs in and to installing entrance doors at tribal headquarters more easily accessible to the handicapped.



Kitty Gunn of Rhode Island Traveled Farthest For Council



Hollis Stebenthal, 3, was the youngest tribal member present for Council. Chairman John A. Barrett Jr. Presented him with a kid-sized Pendleton blanket.



Fannie Long, 90, was again the wisest (eldest) tribal member on hand for General Council. Chairman Barrett presented her with a beautiful shawl.



# POTAWATOMI POW WOW 1995

## Tribal members elect Flanagan, approve both questions

BY GLORIA TROTTER

Citizen Band Potawatomi tribal members — at least a few of them — voted June 24 to allow judgment trust funds to be invested by the tribe's own bank and to broaden scholarship eligibility. They also elected a young Oklahoma City attorney to the Grievance Committee by two votes.

In the only contested race on the 1995 ballot, Marian Flanagan edged Jo Ann Johnson 259-257 for the Grievance Committee slot. Flanagan collected one more absentee vote than her opponent (191-190) and one more live vote (68-67) in winning the election.

However, Tribal Chairman John A. Barrett Jr. said after the results were announced to the General Council that Flanagan has been recommended to fill a vacancy on the tribal Supreme Court. "When she's confirmed, she'll have to resign (from the Grievance Committee)," he noted. "I suppose we would appoint Jo Ann for the balance of her term."

The two other Grievance Committee members, Gene Bruno and Hazel Rhodd Williamson, were re-elected unopposed, as was Committeeman #2 Hilton Melot.

Voters also approved the budget for spending the interest earned on set-aside funds 462-96. That money is used to



Judge Philip Lujan Swears In Grievance Committee Members Hazel Rhodd Williamson, Gene Bruno And Marian Flanagan

building and grounds upkeep, equipment

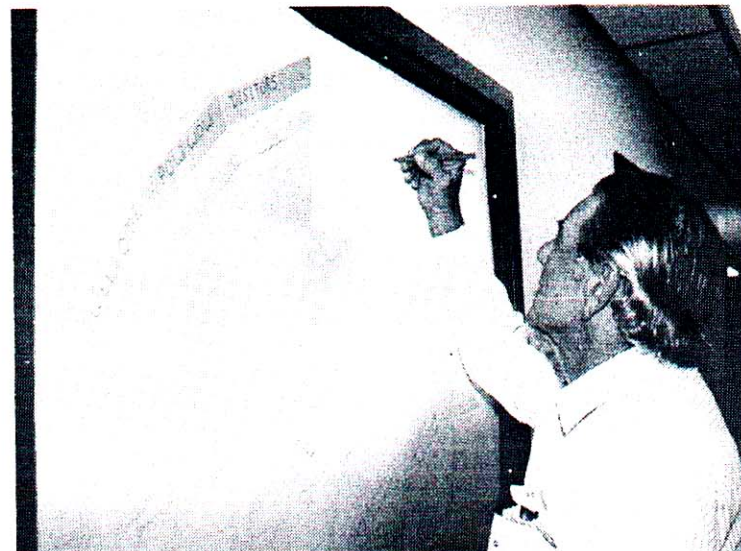
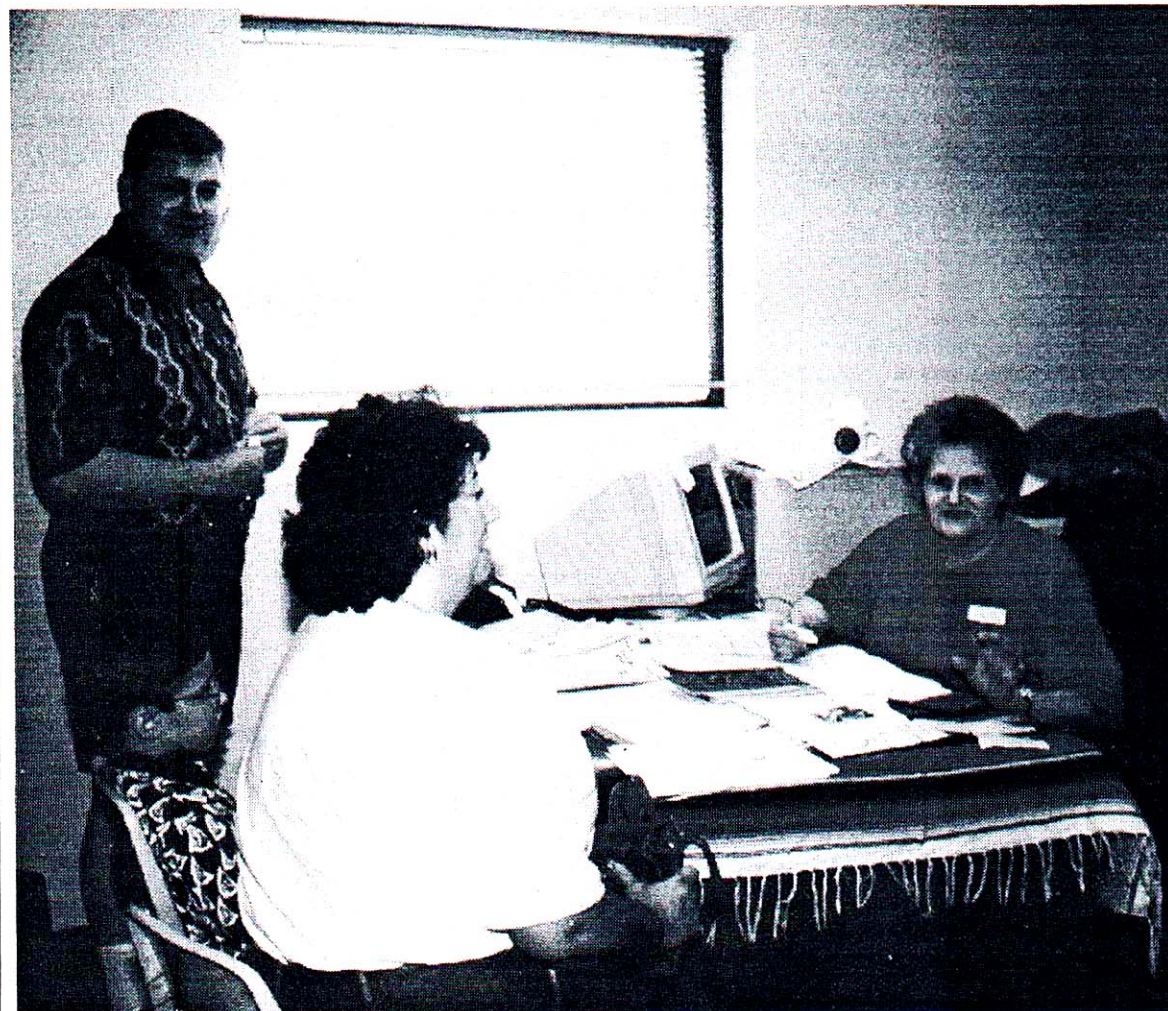
and real estate purchases. Approval of the two questions was also lopsided. On Question 1, which will allow the judgment funds now held in trust by

the Bureau of Indian Affairs to be invested by the tribally-owned bank, the vote was 452-92. On Question 2, which will make all tribal members eligible for scholarships, the vote was 462-96.



Committeeman #2 Hilton Melot Takes Oath Of Office

A total of 465 absentee ballots and 130 live votes were counted. Sixty-nine absentee ballots and 24 live ballots were rejected.



### In Good Health

Tribal Health Services employees were busy Saturday, June 24, giving free health checks to any tribal members who wanted them. Among those taking advantage of the the services were an unidentified tribal member from Tennessee, shown above signing the "visitors window," and Joe and Cynthia Dorries and son Joshua of Irving, Texas, pictured at left.





# POTAWATOMI POW WOW 1995

## Together In Spirit

With a cool summer breeze rustling the leaves overhead, more than 150 people gathered under a tent at the Pow Wow grounds Sunday morning, June 25, to worship together. Tribal Chaplain Norman Kiker read a list of tribal members who died during the past year and asked for the names of others to be remembered. Quietly, the names floated out from the congregation, one at a time, in unrehearsed order. Birds chattered happily as Kiker let the sacred smoke rise into the sunny skies. "In the smoke of the cedar, open your heart to God," he prayed. As the congregation shared communion, tribal member Glenn LaZelle strummed "The Old Rugged Cross" on his guitar. Joined in the spirit of worship, the tribal members later spontaneously joined in singing "How Great Thou Art" together.



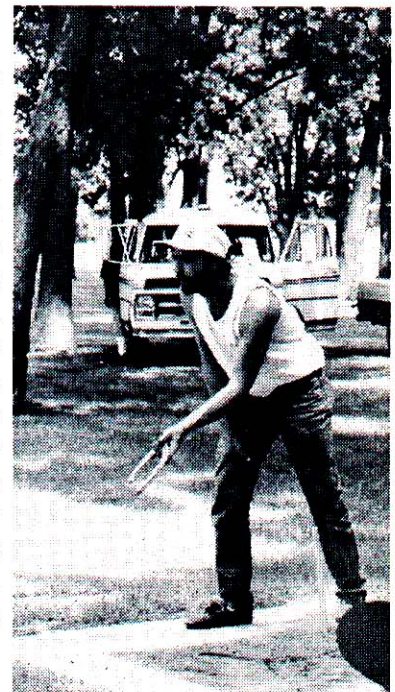
Spectators And Contestants Watch The Beginning Of The Game



Melot Presents Maupin With The First Place Prize Money

## Horseshoes!

The 24 contestants paying a \$5 entry fee represented the largest horseshoe tournament ever held during Potawatomi Pow Wow Weekend. The Rhodds fared well as three family members played in the semi-finals and Frank Rhodd finished second in the final game. Also making it to the semi-finals was Committeeman Hilton Melot, who lost to Frank Rhodd. Along with the contestants, many relatives and horseshoe fans came to the beautiful pecan grove near the golf course to watch. Fire Lake golf pro Mike Wood was in charge. The three top winners won cash prizes of \$60, \$36 and \$24 each.



Maupin Demonstrates His Winning Form



Winners Glen Burton (Third), Frank Rhodd (Second) And Shea Maupin (First) Hold Up T-Shirts

Story & Photos by  
Vice Chairman Linda Capps



# ROTAWATOMI POW WOW 1995



*These Young Fellows Take Dancing Very Seriously Even At An Early Age*



*Young Buckskin Dancer Has Grace Beyond Her Years*



*Vice Chairman Linda Capps Hands Out Five Dollar "Awards" To Tiny Tot Dancers*



*Committeeman Hilton Melot Has Young Dancers Waiting In Line For \$5 Cash Prizes*





# POTAWATOMI POW WOW 1995



*Golden Age Dancer Awaits Grand Entry*



*Strong Colors Dominate This Beautiful Ladies' Cloth Costume*



*Fancy Dancer Becomes A Swirl Of Color (Photo by Tribal Member Jim Lemon)*





# POTAWATOMI POW WOW 1995



## 1995 POTAWATOMI POW WOW

### COMPETITION WINNERS

#### Men's Straight

1. Terry Tsotigh
2. Zack Morris
3. Vernon Harrogarra
4. Billy Komahcheet

3. Bonnie Tomahsan
4. Lindsey Lonetree

#### Men's Grass

1. Darrell Goodwill
2. Marty Pinnecoose
3. A.C. Sheridan
4. Dennis Zotigh

#### Women's Buckskin

1. Delaine Alley
2. Crystal Pewo
3. Alice Ann Kaulaity
4. Danielle Primeaux

#### Men's Traditional

1. Kevin Haywahe
2. Morgan Tosee, Sr.
3. Pat Moore
4. Conrad Rope

#### Women's Jingle

1. Angela Jones
2. Tara Firstrider
3. Nikki Owings
4. Mary Carter

#### Men's Fancy

1. Joe Bointy
2. Amos Yazzi
3. Kevin Connywardy
4. Graham Primeaux

#### Golden Age Men

1. Theodore Moore Sr.
2. Ron Plumley
3. Paul Roughface

#### Jr. Girl - Jingle

1. Jennifer Jones
2. Juila Noel
3. Felicia Bullock, Yellow Sky Eagle
4. Cody Horsechief

#### Golden Age Women (Cloth/Buckskin)

1. Mary Ann Anquse
2. Grace Tsonetokoy
3. Sylvestine Shields

#### Jr. Boys - Grass

1. Keen-o Gallegos
2. Marty Thurman
3. Nick Hunter
4. Jason Pacheco

#### Golden Age Women (Jingle/Fancy Shawl)

1. Thomasine Moore
2. Dolores Goodeagle
3. Eunice Lane

#### Jr. Girl - Cloth

1. Flora Thompson
2. Sonya Liles
3. Kay Kay Franklin
4. Shannon Begay

#### Jr. Boys - Straight

1. William Tosee, Jr.
2. Clark Pepper, Jr.
3. Hubert Kaulaity
4. Barry Brown

#### Jr. Girl Buckskin

1. Ponka-we Victors
2. Stephanie Franklin
3. Chalene Toehuy
4. Toni Lynn Kaulaity

#### Jr. Girls - Fancy Shawl

1. Georgena Jones
2. Rachelle Tosee
3. Tanksi Clairmont
4. Stephanie Longhorn

#### Jr. Boys Traditional

1. Kenneth Cozad
2. Andrew Vasquez, Jr.
3. Darrell Calde, Jr.
4. Sequoyah Monroe

#### Jr. Boys - Fancy

1. Cortrey Yarholar
2. Greg Victors
3. Kyle Pacheco
4. Ben Davis

#### Drum Contest, Southern

1. Rose Hill
2. Cozad Family
3. Keukuk Falls
4. Yellow Hammer

#### Women's Cloth

1. Renee Morris
2. Rebecca Gwin
3. Amber Toppah
4. DeAnn Pewo

#### Women's Fancy Shawl

1. Martha Jones
2. Sheila McCabe

#### Drum Contest, Northern

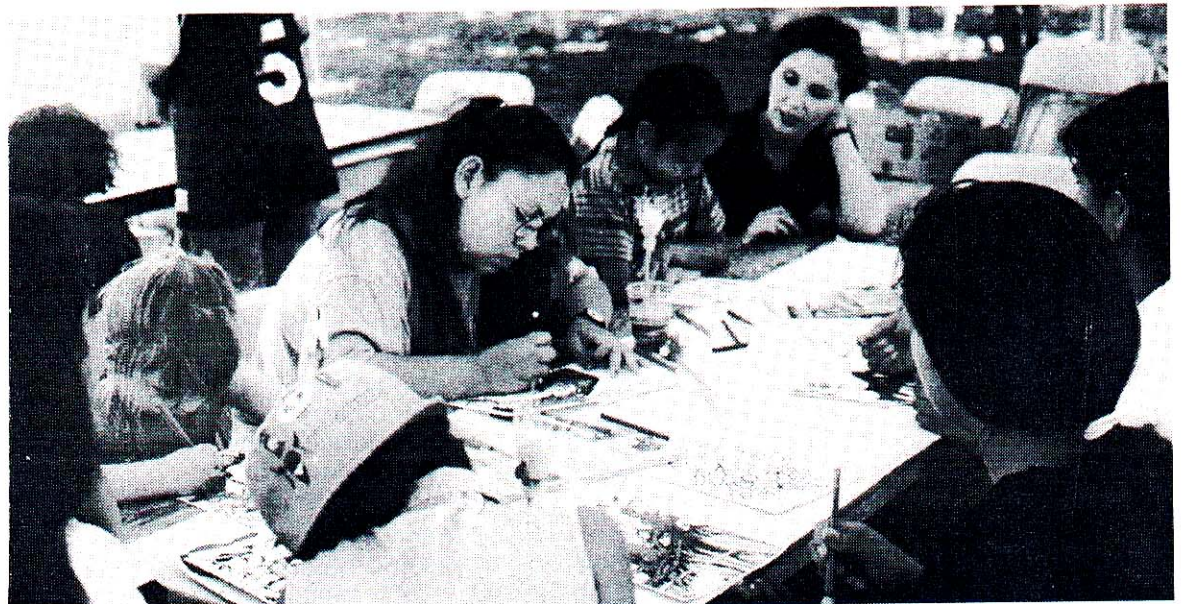
1. Dancing Bear Creek
2. Cache Creek
3. Red Stick
4. Brave Scout Singers



# POTAWATOMI POW WOW 1995



*Top Left: Business Committee Members, Princess, Administrators, Tribal Officials, Regional Representatives Lead Grand Entry. Lower Left: Chairman Barrett Carries The Traditional Staff While His Sons Josh And Jack Bear The National And State Flags. Above: Chairman Barrett Honors Tribal Princess Ginger Schmilkofer. Ginger's Father Robert Stands At Right.*



## **Just For Kids**

For the first time this year, a special program was held for young tribal members on Saturday of Pow Wow Weekend. Staff members from Health Services set up a variety of activities under the tent at the pow wow grounds and had a great response. "We had about 40 kids — from everywhere," said Shirl Hubert. The youngsters enjoyed sand painting, beadwork, coloring and other activities.



# Bingo!

## Entertainment center is poised for growth

BY GLORIA TROTTER

Fire Lake Entertainment Center may not be the biggest Indian bingo hall, but it may very well be the best run in the country.

And its general manager, George Teafatiller, credits "fantastic employees" and the leadership of the Citizen Band Potawatomi Business Committee with that success. Almost 40 employees took care of more than 65,000 customers last year, and netted more than a quarter of a million dollars for the tribe's programs.

Those numbers reflect an increase in both attendance and revenue, Teafatiller said, while expenses decreased — just what you want from a well-run business. Even better, Fire Lake Entertainment Center does not have to send a big chunk of that money to some outside management firm. The tribe went that route in the early days, but soon took over management of the hall without the "middleman."

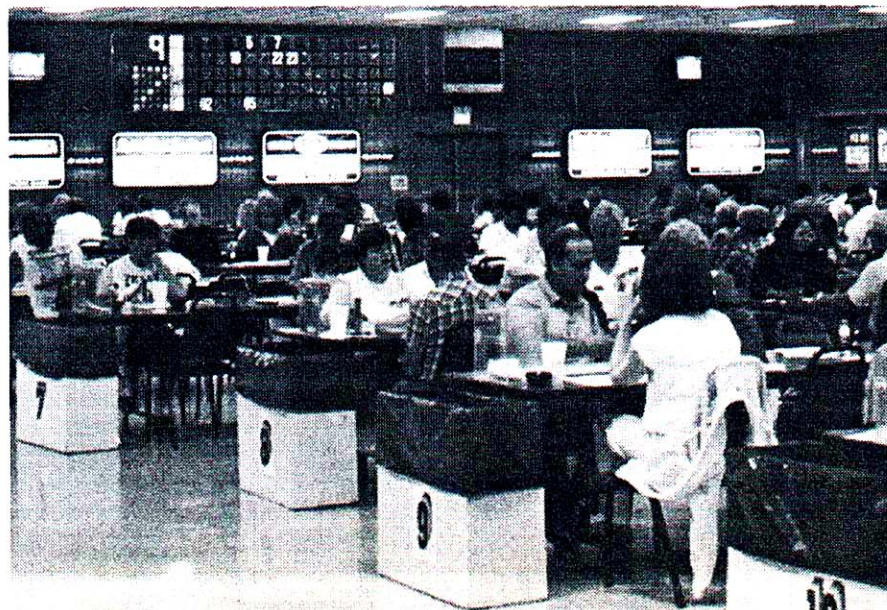
There have been many changes since those early days. "I guess the biggest change is electronic bingo," said Teafatiller. Non-bingo players who are only familiar with those cards and markers from childhood games wouldn't recognize the game now. "Traditional" bingo is marking a piece of paper with a "dauber" — a fat marker. Good players can handle two or three of those.

But with electronic bingo, players use a hand-held, computerized device that allows them to play many games at once. "And that means that we can make more money with fewer players," Teafatiller noted. Bingo today is exciting and eventful, too. "Our Fire Lake Jackpot can pay up to \$10,000 to the winner," the manager said, "and we play 'pick seven' rather than 'pick eight' which gives us more winners and pays an average of about \$8,000. The odds are much better than with 'pick eight,' which is what most halls play."

"Our philosophy is that we want people to walk out of here winners," he said. Teafatiller is excited about a new MegaBingo game which links 57 of the smaller Native American bingo halls through a satellite system for a 15-minute game offering a progressive jackpot starting at \$25,000 and increasing by \$250 per game until it's won.

"We are far and away the biggest of the 'small halls,'" Teafatiller said, "so we'll have more winners than anybody else. The players really like it, and the tribe's commission on it is up."

Teafatiller talked about his customers with real affection. "I'm a people person anyway," he smiled, "and the people who play



Bingo Players Are "Like Family" At Fire Lake

bingo here consider each other family ... it's really a social event. We have a great player base, and I really enjoy them." Customers come in all shapes and sizes, he said, although it's true many of them are older, single people. And they're certainly not all Native Americans, although there are still people who think you have to be an Indian to play bingo or work in the hall. Neither is true, the manager stressed.

While many employees are Native American, more aren't. But he's proud of them all. "We have almost no turnover," he said. "I'm especially proud of the floor workers. Most of them are college kids, and they're great. Sometimes, they quit and then want to come back. This is a good place to work."

While bingo continues to be the bread and butter of the tribe's enterprises, Teafatiller and tribal leaders are keeping a close eye on the future of gaming. The tribe is currently seeking an off-track betting compact with the State of Oklahoma, although no word has come from the governor yet. If approved, the compact will enable Teafatiller to set up an off-track betting parlor where customers can place wagers much like at the horse track and then watch simulcast races to see if they've won.

The Oklahoma Legislature authorized off-track betting during its last session as part of Class II gaming. Even more interesting than that action is the current petition drive to call a vote on casino gaming at a restricted number of horse tracks in Oklahoma. Although proponents of the plan have said that Native American tribes could be prohibited from

operating such casinos for five years or so, Indian gaming experts have said they can't see how tribes can be prohibited from opening casinos the minute anyone else in the state does.

And, of course, the Potawatomi Tribe is the only tribe which has a Class III gaming compact with the State of Oklahoma. That compact, although signed by Gov. David Walters and approved by the Legislature, went into limbo when federal officials decided that it couldn't be implemented since Oklahoma does not yet have Class III gaming. Should the proposed casino plan be approved by the voters, the Potawatomis will be the only tribe ready to go into business immediately.

In the meantime, flashy new signs and some other general remodeling are underway at the bingo hall to dress things up and sort of keep up with the brand-new bowling center next door. Improvements are almost constant at the hall, and Teafatiller expressed particular thanks to the administration and the Business Committee members for their unfailing support. He also noted that Gaming Commissioner Gene Bruno is in touch almost every week and serves well as his liaison with the Business Committee.



### Scientist, scholar turns to gaming

George Teafatiller is just about the last person you'd expect to find in the world of gaming.

This man who owns "probably 3,000 books" earned dual bachelor's degrees in geology and geophysics, a master's degree in secondary science education and has been accepted for a doctoral program in environmental sciences. During his first career in the oil industry, he traveled to 26 countries and at least 12 states — "where ever they were drilling a well."

He was working on that master's degree when a friend encouraged him to apply for a part-time job at Potawatomi Bingo in 1992 to help with expenses while he was in school. "I started with pull tabs and the register," he said. "Then I went to the desk, then to relief manager and on Oct. 1, 1994, I became general manager and Director of Gaming."

A lifelong resident of Tecumseh, Teafatiller graduated from Tecumseh High School in 1969. He has been married for 22 years and has three children who he has "dragged to every museum in this state" — Amy, 20; Leo, 17; and Amber, 11. When he is not working the long hours that are part of his job, he likes to work in his flower beds, golf "and now I'm getting into bowling." A history buff and voracious reader, he also enjoys fossil and rock hunting.

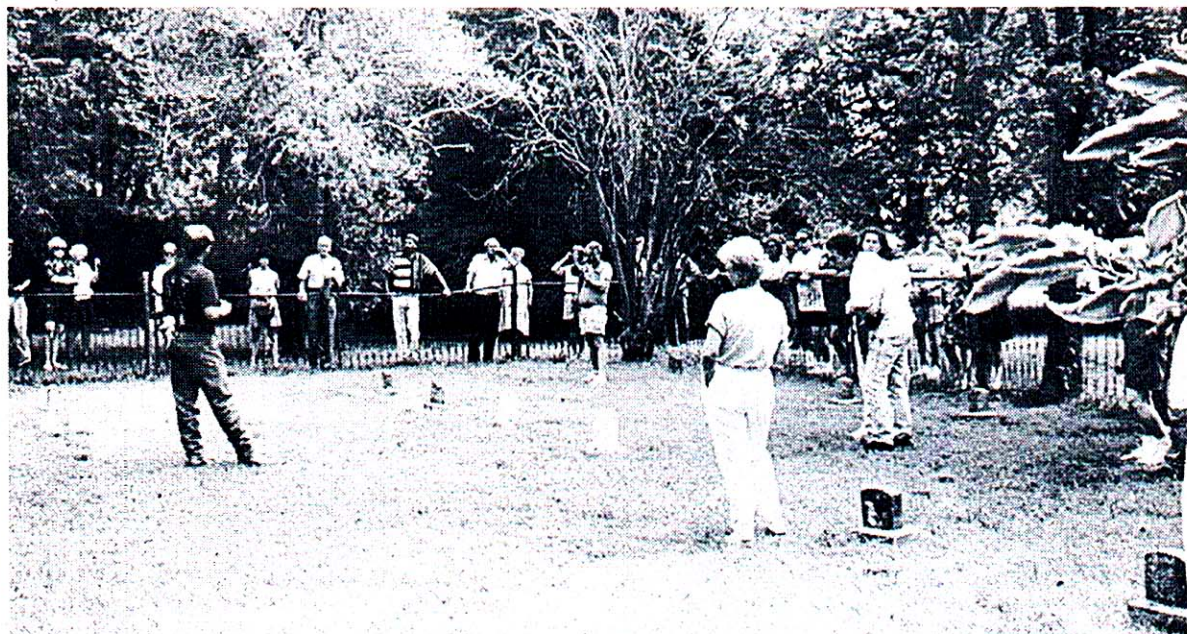




# POTAWATOMI POW WOW 1995



Tribal Members Admire Interior Of Sacred Heart Church



Tim Lowry (Back To Camera At Left) Talks To Visitors In The Sisters' Cemetery

## Sacred Heart tour is walk through tribal history

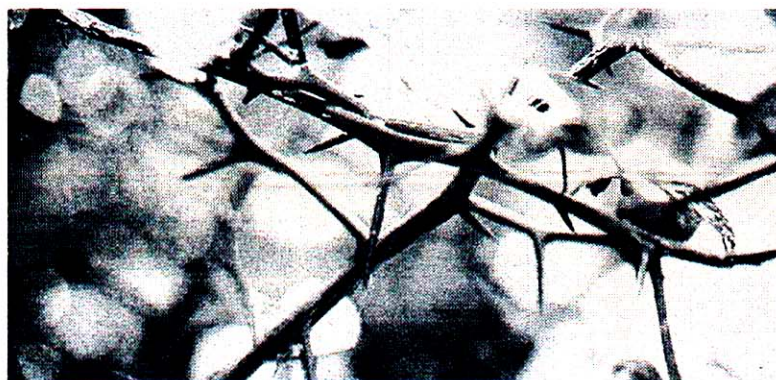
By GLORIA TROTTER

Treading softly in the soft summer sun, a group of Potawatomis from across America returned to the now quiet corner of Pottawatomie County that was once the center of civilization in this area.

It was a walk in the shoes of their ancestors for several tribal members who had heard stories from elder relatives about growing up at the historic Catholic mission that educated Native American youngsters — and anyone else who wanted to come — for decades until a great fire and burgeoning civilization made it mostly a place of ghostly memories.

Citizen Band Potawatomi regional representatives from Washington, Oregon, California, Colorado, Arizona, Texas and Kansas were joined by other tribal members for a tour of the all-but-hidden valley behind Sacred Heart Church in the far southeast corner of the county. The tribal members were visiting Pottawatomie County for the tribe's 22nd annual Potawatomi Pow Wow and annual election, General Council meeting and other activities. Many had never before visited the mission site that played such a big role in the tribe's early history in Oklahoma.

Tribal member Tim Lowry, who is president of the Sacred Heart Mission Historical Society, greeted the visitors and gave a brief history lesson the church parish hall before beginning the tour. "The site was on a major east-west military and trade trail as early as the 1830s," he told them, where it crossed a major



Palestine Thorny Wild Lemon Tree

north-south trail. "This six-mile meadow was a popular campground — it was a main intersection."

Lowry told the visitors how the tribe treated a one-mile square portion of their land for a school after Father Isidore Robot, a Benedictine priest, arrived in the area 30 years before statehood. The Potawatomis, many of whom had French blood and were Catholic dating back to their Great Lakes days, welcomed the church and its efforts to provide education and civilization in the wilderness.

For more than 25 years, from 1875-1901, they operated a Catholic high school there. As the group toured the grounds, Lowry pointed out the bakery, built in 1881, still standing despite repeated vandalism. "We almost had the bakery restored," Lowry said. "We had replaced the window glass, and they they were broken out. We'll replace them with Plexiglass this time." Also still standing is a three-story log building which was used for everything from a cobbler shop to a watch repair shop to a dormi-

tory. Of other buildings that once made up the extensive complex, only outlines in the dust remain.

Left to the imagination are the oldest formal gardens in Oklahoma, but the other unusual plants are the living evidence of Sacred Heart's history. As the visitors approached the Benedictine cemetery where the monks who ran the mission rest for all time, they examined the Palestine thorny wild lemon tree that guards the burial site. The trees, said to be those from which Jesus' crown of thorns was made, were brought here by the priests more than a hundred years ago.

Gary Bibb, the tribe's regional representative in Northern California, tells someone that he remembers his grandfather telling of being beaten by a monk for speaking Potawatomi while in school at Sacred Heart. "I bet they spoke French to him," came the pointed reply. A few steps away is the graveyard of the Sisters of Mercy, the nuns who operated St. Mary's Academy, a boarding school for Potawatomi girls which also taught local farm boys including famous mystery

writer Tony Hillerman.

Many Potawatomis are buried "up on the hill," in the church cemetery where Jim Thorpe's mother and few other Potawatomi rest, or more likely across the road in a pasture where the historical society is cleaning up the burial sites of 90 Potawatomi whose grave markers, made of soft sandstone, are missing or destroyed. The society plans to erect one large marker listing everyone buried there.

The volunteer group, less than 10 years old, has slowly beaten back the undergrowth and the vandalism and the ravages of time at the mission. They maintain — including mowing — 18 acres there with equipment donated by the tribe, St. Gregory's College (that's where the mission moved in the early 1900s) and others. Each Halloween, as well as at other times, they patrol the area to prevent the vandalism that nearly obliterated the sacred site.

"One Halloween we stopped 70 cars in one night," Lowry said.

"Eight members of the East Central University football team spent a night in jail." That slowed down much of the problem, he said, but there are still many unwelcome nocturnal visitors, especially from Shawnee. Even when they're caught, he said, the authorities don't want to prosecute, so it's a constant problem.

The volunteers, particularly Tim and his wife Kathy, conduct tours on request and eventually hope to have permanent facilities for visitors. "Our goal is to have a public use building, including rest rooms," Lowry said. "It could be used for family reunions, picnics."

Back at the parish hall, Grievance Committee member Hazel Williamson, who is active in the historical society, served cake and cold drinks while the visitors filled out membership forms, bought souvenirs and looked over the display of old books, documents and memorabilia — and talked quietly about the aura of the special place and the treasure that it is for the tribe and the community.

### Membership Application - Sacred Heart Historical Society

Return To Sacred Heart Mission, P.O. Box 122, Konawa, OK 74049

#### Check Membership Desired

- ☐ Students — \$5 per year
- ☐ Sr. Citizens — \$5 per year
- ☐ Individual — \$10 per year
- ☐ Family — \$25 per year
- ☐ Business — \$50 per year
- ☐ Life — \$250

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAMES OF FAMILY MEMBERS (For Family Membership): \_\_\_\_\_

I pledge to support the Sacred Heart Mission Historical Society in their efforts to preserve, restore, maintain and care for the Sacred Heart Mission grounds. I have enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_ for my annual membership.

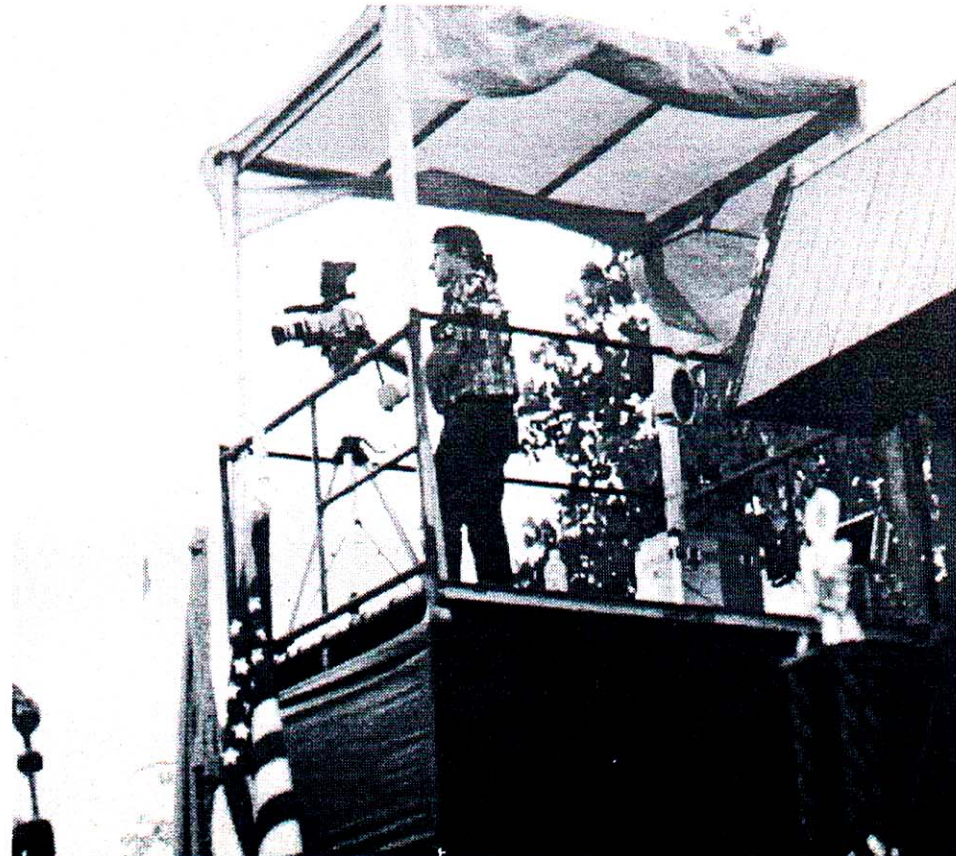
Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# POTAWATOMI POW WOW 1995



Above: Jo Ann Johnson, Pow Wow Coordinator Esther Lowden And Grievance Committee Member Hazel Rhodd Williamson Watch The Dancing. Right: John Ellis Set Up His Skybox To Better Video And Photograph The Pow Wow.



## FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

*By J.D. Colbert*

Last month the tribe concluded its 22nd annual Pow Wow. Many people have told me that this year's Pow Wow was the best yet. Indeed, veteran pow wow goers stated that it was the best pow wow event that they ever attended.

Those who are responsible for this highly successful event include many people. A complete list would be too numerous to mention. However, there are certain people who deserve special recognition. I am especially thankful for the efforts of Deputy Tribal Administrator Bob Trousdale and Tribal Gift Shop Manager Esther Lowden.

Mr. Trousdale headed a pow wow steering committee that began meeting several months in advance of the pow wow to plan the various activities and ensure that all logistical details were attended to. Mrs. Lowden not only served as a member of the planning group but also as the pow wow coordinator.

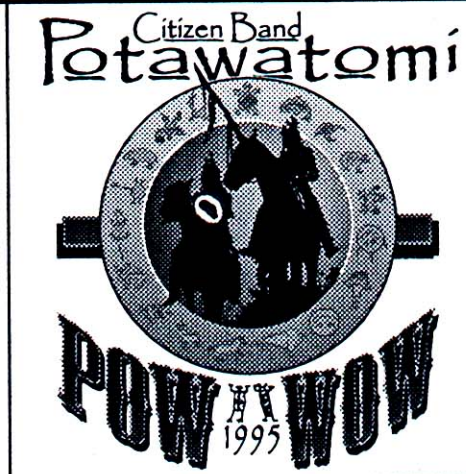
Other members of the planning committee included Tribal Police Chief David Kubiak, Tribal Rolls Director Mary Farrell, Elderly Nutrition Director Denise Lackey, Enterprise Accounting Director Susan Blair and Court Clerk Joie White.

All told, over 70 tribal employees gave of their time to assist in the running of the pow wow or one of the associated events. The tribal departments represented include the Museum and Gift Shop, Tribal Rolls, Fire Lake Bowling, Fire Lake Entertainment, Fire Lake Golf, Enterprise Accounting, Tribal Accounting and Contract Health Department. To these employees, I extend a sincere thank you.

In addition to the above, both the members of the tribal maintenance department and employees of Fire Lake Golf rate special mention for their tireless efforts in preparing and maintaining the pow wow grounds. In particular, Mr. Robert Schmidtkofer, father of Pow Wow Princess Ginger Schmidtkofer, was a constant presence throughout the Pow Wow and went way beyond the call of duty in his efforts.

On behalf of the Business Committee, I wish to thank not only those employees who contributed but express my appreciation to the pow wow staff, dancers, judges, volunteers as well as the regional directors who came from across the country to attend. It was a fun and wonderful event. We are in the process of producing a videotape of the Pow Wow and it should be available for purchase in the very near future. I look forward to the 23rd annual Pow Wow next June.

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# ATTENTION — Important Change in the tribe's Burial Insurance Fund Cut-Off Date Is Sept. 1, 1995!

A major change in the new Potawatomi Burial Insurance Fund program was made at the quarterly meeting of the Business Committee May 23. Because it became obvious that the meeting the original 75 percent enrollment requirement would not happen for many months — if ever — the committee voted to begin the program with those enrolled as of Sept. 1, 1995.

Less than half of the enrolled tribal members have signed up for the Burial Insurance Fund, and the number of registrations needed keeps increasing because of an unusually heavy number of new tribal enrollments. Business

Committee members feared that many of those who really need the \$1,000 death benefit might never be able to receive it.

Therefore, the committee eliminated the 75 percent requirement. However, EACH TRIBAL MEMBER MUST STILL COMPLETE A BURIAL FUND ENROLLMENT FORM BELOW TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE BURIAL INSURANCE FUND.

Remember, no enrollments will be accepted after Sept. 1, 1995. Only those who have signed up by that date will be eligible for the program.

## ***BURIAL INSURANCE FUND ENROLLMENT FORM***

*This form must be completed and returned to the tribe to be eligible for burial insurance payment.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
           (Include Maiden)           (Please Print)

Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Send To: Tribal Rolls, Citizen Band Potawatomi Indians Of Oklahoma, 1901 Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawee, OK 74801





# IN YOUR OPINION

## Tribal scholarship enables tribal member complete studies

To The Editor:

I recently graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma with a Master of Arts in English. My thesis was a 524 page novel entitled, *The Life and Times of Drake Tidwell: Payroll to Leavenworth*. Hopefully that will be an inspiration to others, as I graduated at the age of 46, proof that is is never too late to learn.

I would like to extend heartfelt gratitude to the Potawatomi Tribal Office, and the American Indian Graduate Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico, for their financial support throughout that endeavor. Had it not been for the educational benefits extended to me by the tribe and the AIGC, a Master's Degree in anything would have been out of my reach.

While attending college I worked as a ghost writer on a novel for a private investigator in Edmond, Oklahoma, and have had several short stories published in various publications. The proudest of those is the most recent entitled "The Haze of August," which was published in a new magazine, *Trail's End*. As a writer of western fiction, that was the first of my many western short stories to be published.

I have authored two more novels, both of which are western fiction, also about the life and times of Drake Tidwell. Drake Tidwell has become to me what John Lassiter (*Riders of the Purple Sage*) was to Zane Grey. Many of my short stories have Tidwell as the lead character. There is yet another novel in the works about Drake Tidwell.

Several of my plays have been produced. My "baby," that being the first play I had produced, is slated for publication this fall in *New Plains Review*, the liberal arts publication of the University of Central Oklahoma. That play is entitled *Rose Without a Thorn* and is about the nineteen month marriage and tragic, untimely execution of Catherine Howard (an aunt on my father's side thirteen generations ago) to Henry VIII, King of England. That play is enjoying nationwide production on a recurring basis. Other plays I have written which have enjoyed full production are *Victoria's Candle and Soap Company*, *Season's End* and *Neurosis at the Four Thousand Level*. Several other plays have had staged readings and are in the process of

being rewritten.

*And Creek Massacre*, a full-length play about the senseless slaughter of the Cheyenne and Arapaho at Sand Creek in 1864, is nearly ready for production. New information made available to me has caused me to rewrite the play to include scenes which had not been in it before. I have gone to great lengths to insure that this play will tell a true and accurate story from the Indian's point of view.

Currently I am free-lancing as a writer, playwright and production assistant. I have worked on several television and movie projects as a production assistant driving a fifteen passenger van and lending a certain amount of knowledge about the state and its history to the production crews and writers. I was an Oklahoma State Park Ranger for five years prior to going back to school full time, and have studied Oklahoma history for many years.

This fall I will be taking a second master's degree at the University of Central Oklahoma. Being a history buff, it only made sense for me to go ahead and get another master's in Southwest History. If anyone is interested in the Earp Brothers, give me a call. I have tons of information about them which I have read and reread several times, and will talk about them with anyone who cares to discuss their lives.

On a seedier side, I have studied Victorian erotic literature to a fault, not as a "letch" or "dirty old man," but as a form of literature. The effects that particular art form had on the social issues of Victorian England, not to mention here in the United States, left an impact which cannot be overlooked in our modern society. A thesis paper I wrote on the subject, "A Darker Side of Victorian Literature," has enjoyed a certain cult following. I presented that paper as a part of the University's Liberal Arts Symposium this past spring, and it is due for publication this fall as well.

If anyone can use my services, or would simply like to correspond or network with me, please feel free to write or call. I have also taught creative writing to adults and teenagers.

E.D. Howard  
1220 N.W. 16th St.  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
(405)524-9690

## Family focus of annual pow wow

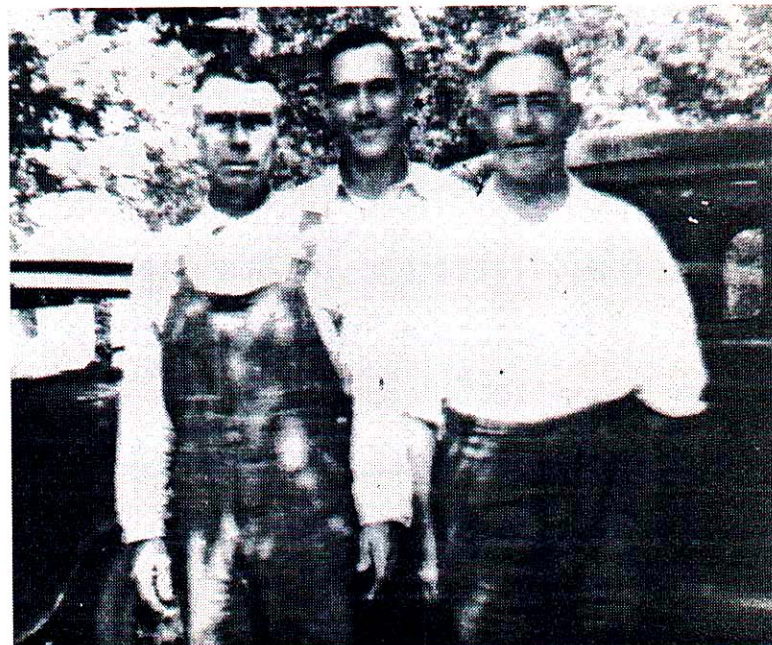
To The Editor:

The Pow Wow grounds were beautiful. Will Wabunsee told me they were one of the prettiest he had ever seen. This year several of my relatives (Navarres) and I came down from Topeka, Kansas to attend. I had been in Topeka visiting my mother Wanda Eileen (Patton) St. Louis. As usual many Navarres met at the Cinderella Motel by the pool.

I must praise the Tribal Administration for the business accomplishments, the bingo hall, bowling center, etc. Any tribal member who hasn't been to Shawnee is missing something.

After the PowWow, back in Topeka, Mary (Burns) Carr, my mother and I went to Mayetta to visit and see some of the new things at the Prairie Band Reservation. The old meeting house has been restored. It is absolutely beautiful. They have built a new bingo hall. There is a new child care center by the gym, library and senior center.

I got to see a lot of old friends. And I plan to return soon, perhaps next year, to see some more.



Walter Patton, Osto Patton, Clarence Patton

Our brothers, the Prairie Band, are going to be starting a casino soon — wishing them great success.

One more thing. The old "Our Lady of the Snows" church on the reservation has been restored. It is worth a trip to Mayetta to see it.

Maybe next year I can get my cousin, Joleen Parr, to attend Pow Wow in Shawnee.

Best to all,

James Lemon  
El Dorado, Arkansas

## Alaska tribal member finishes college at 43

Dear HowNiKan,

I want to tell you how much I appreciate the financial support I have received from the Tribal scholarship fund. Anyone that has gone to school lately knows how expensive an education can be. Therefore it is with much gratitude that I give thanks to the scholarship committee and to the Tribe for creating the opportunity for me to apply for the scholarship.

I am not what you would call a "typical" college student. I am 43 years old, went to college right out of high school and then dropped out. After being drafted during the Vietnam war, I moved to Alaska and have been in this state ever since. Living here has found me in a variety of work situations, from working as a land surveyor, being a deck hand on a fishing boat to being a cook and a mineral exploration driller (which is what I do in the summer when I am not in school).

I decided to go back to school after drilling for about 10 years, not wanting to be a driller for the rest of my life! Being that I have a lot of interest in natural systems and how they function, I decided

to go into natural resource management.

I graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resource Management in December of 1994. I continued on with school the following semester working towards a master's degree in the same field. My thesis work will be on using constructed wetlands for waste water treatment purposes, both municipal and storm water runoff. Here in Alaska most of

the villages are without any sort of sewage treatment facilities and most storm water is discharged directly into a river or stream. So there is plenty of opportunity for someone with my interest and a real need to improve water quality in the villages.

Thank you once again for the support you have shown me in my education efforts.

Sincerely,

Dave Maddu  
Alaska

### Donations to the HowNiKan

Mr. & Mrs. Paul  
Courington, OK - \$20  
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Fannie Long, CA - \$20  
John Twigg, CA - \$10  
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Leann Miller, IN - \$5  
Rocky & Maxine Baptiste,  
OR - \$5  
Patsy R. Vawter, CA - \$20

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Deadline  
Is The 5th  
Of The  
Month



# INDIAN COUNTRY NEWS

## Justice Department proposing magistrate courts on reservations

(From *News From Indian Country*, Late June 1995) — The Justice Department plans to establish federal magistrate courts on Indian reservations even though some tribal leaders say it's "a totally bad idea."

U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno presented the proposal on June 2 to about 200 government and tribal leaders at the Northwest American Indian Nations and Department of Justice Conference.

The Justice Department, she said, is launching the Tribal Courts Initiative to establish U.S. Magistrate Courts on reservations to prosecute crimes committed there.

"Strong tribal courts are an essential component of tribal sovereignty, self-governance and economic stability of Indian Nations," Reno told tribal representatives from more than 50 Northwestern tribes, and chief judges from federal and state courts in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Nevada and Utah.

The first court was scheduled to convene next June 9 at the Warm Springs Reservation in Oregon. Reno said that if the initiative is well received, federal courts could be held on other reservations but only with approval of individual tribes.

Oregon's U.S. Attorney, Kris Olsen, said the Tribal Courts Initiative was developed as a way to close "jurisdictional gaps" on

Indian reservations.

As the court system works now, tribal courts are prohibited from prosecuting non-Indians. Federal law also restricts tribal judges from imposing jail sentences of more than one year and fines of no more than \$1,000 per count, whether a felony or misdemeanor.

As a result, most tribes refer all felonies and misdemeanors involving non-Indians to their states' U.S. attorney.

Consequently, many misdemeanor crimes have gone unprosecuted because they are given a low priority by federal prosecutors, said Herb Becker, director of the Office of Tribal Justice, which was created in January to facilitate communication between tribes and the government.

The miles between some reservations and federal prosecutors, as well as prosecution expenses, also have caused some cases to slip through the cracks, said Becker.

He said it's impossible to determine the number of crimes that have gone unprosecuted. But Reno said the problem was big enough to explore the possibility of federal magistrates coming directly to the reservations.

Some tribal leaders fear the courts will tread on their sovereignty.

"It's a totally bad idea," said Roberts Yazzie, chief justice of Navajo Supreme Court in Win-

dow Rock, Ariz. "The Navajo system is better because it incorporates Navajo thinking.

"We've been creating worldwide attention with our Navajo system, mainly peacemaking. Let the people handle their own problems," he said.

Yazzie and Navajo President Albert Hale said they would adamantly oppose the U.S. Magistrate Courts if they are expanded to the Navajo Reservation, which includes portions of Utah, Arizona, Colorado and New Mexico.

"Obviously we have a lot of issues to straighten out," Hale said. "We want to have the ability to have sovereignty over all crimes and we already have that.

There's no sense in reinventing the wheel."

A. Brian Wallace of Gardnerville, Nev., chairman of the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, agrees with the Navajo Nation that the best approach would be to redesign the entire tribal court system, which would require an act of Congress.

But until then, Wallace said, the initiative appears, to be a good intermediate approach to tribal justice.

"There needs to be more access to federal courts, but we would first like to see if the initiative is successful," he said.

U.S. magistrate Dennis Hubel, who will preside over cases at the

Warm Springs Reservation, said the initiative is intended to "make sure everybody is happy.

"I think the most important thing to tribes is that their jurisdiction to be taken away from them," he said.

In other measures to fight crime, Reno said, the Justice Department has granted more than \$9 million from police hiring grants to 128 tribes and has added 26 assistant U.S. attorneys to districts with a large number of Indian tribes.

"There reaches a point when you've got to stop listening and you've got to start responding," she said. "But we need to do more."

## Modern technology, traditional ways combined in Sioux mobile buffalo meatpacking operation

(From *News From Indian Country*, Late June 1995) — The Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe will use modern technology so it can slaughter its buffalo in the traditional way.

The tribe recently received a \$1.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to buy a mobile meatpacking plant made by a Swedish firm.

The mobile processor will allow the tribe to slaughter buffalo on the prairie without having to round them up into corrals. The plant comes in two semi tractor trailers which unfold and connect to make a complete packing plant.

"The whole idea is based on respect for the animal, while still doing the things we need to do to get them to the marketplace," said tribal member Fred DuBray.

Indians traditionally killed buffalo on the open prairie. The mobile plant will let them return to that tradition, including the performance of ceremonies that follow a kill.

A practical effect is better meat.

"It's based on just pure common sense and hunting background," DuBray said. "If you run a deer for two miles before you kill, it won't taste as good as one you killed while it was content."

The mobile plant also will solve another problem.

DuBray said many packing plants won't take animals that haven't been fattened in a feed lot.

The Cheyenne River Sioux and other tribes want to market grass-

fed, natural buffalo, and the mobile plant will make that possible.

DuBray said the processor could be operating as early as this fall, but he emphasized that profit is not the tribe's main motive.

"We're trying to get more people involved, based on the whole idea of an annual hunt," DuBray said. "We have to fit into a modern context, but it still can be based on the idea of our own people being involved in doing the butchering."

## Telephone replacing feather with Indian call-in talk show

(From *News From Indian Country*, Mid-June 1995) — The telephone is replacing the feather in a new radio program that takes an American Indian tradition nationwide.

In traditional talking circles, tribal members pass around a feather. The one holding the feather gets to talk — about anything.

Starting June 5 on "Native American Calling," host George Tiger will field the calls. Producers say it is the first national call-in radio program devoted to American Indians. Radio stations in Belcourt and New Town are scheduled to carry the program.

The program is co-produced by the Native American Public Broadcasting Consortium and the Alaska Public Radio Network, which has had success with a daily Indian news program that airs nationwide.

"We're taking that concept, which is informing people about Indian issues, and we're bringing it to a second phase," APRN's Cassandra Shumate said from her office in Anchorage, Alaska. "Everyone has seen the power that talk radio can have in unifying people. We just want to build on that."

Ideas for topics range from interviews with American Indian Olympic hopefuls to a comparison between the Republican "Contract With America" and government contracts with Indians over the years.

Tiger and producer Pamela Belgarde work out of offices at KUNM, the radio station at the University of New Mexico, which is helping produce the program. The hour-long show is to be broadcast Monday through Friday. It will be distributed initially via the American Indian Radio on Satellite Network for play on 29 Indian-owned stations in 12 states.

## Virginia tribes may seek recognition

(From *News From Indian Country*, Late June 1995) — Four Virginia tribes are considering applying for recognition by the federal government, a status that could qualify them for student aid, grants and increased self-rule.

None of Virginia's eight state-recognized tribes are recognized by the federal government. Most of the treaties between the commonwealth of Virginia and the tribes were written long before the federal government was created.

The Upper Mattaponi and the United Rappahannock applied for federal grants earlier this month to help them document their eligibility for federal status.

A third tribe, the Mattaponi, recently sent the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs a letter of intent that acknowledges its interest in federal recognition. The tribe is considering seeking it, but its council has not decided.

"We're weighing the pros and cons of it, but we're probably leaning towards seeking federal recognition," said Mark Custalow, one of the seven councilmen in the King William County tribe.

A fourth tribe, the Chickahominy, is expected to apply for federal assistance in documenting its eligibility later this summer, according to spokesmen for the Indian tribes.

Virginia's four other tribes, the Monacan, Pamunkey, Nansemond and Eastern Chickahominy are also interested in federal recognition but have not filed paperwork, according to Gary Bond, the chairman of a tribal umbrella group called United Indians of Virginia.



# HOW·NI·KAN

PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

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## POTAWATOMI POW WOW 1995



*Tribal Chairman John A. "Rocky" Barrett, In New Straight Dance Regalia,  
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